Death of Elephants

1940. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the death of a large number of elephants in Kerala-Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border in the North-Westem ghats during the current year;

(b) whether any enquiry in this regard as been conducted; if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to save the elephants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir. A total of 42 cases of death of elephants have been reported upto May, 1996 during the current financial year by the States of Kerala, Kamataka and Tamil Nadu from the forests around Kerala-Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border in the North-Western gats.

(b) Yes, Sir. Independent enquiries have been conducted by departmental officers and veterinary officers of the concerned States. The cases fall into the following categories:

(i) Poaching	4 cases
(ii) Natural cases including predation, accidents, senility, diseases, etc.,	38 cases

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken up by the State Governments to save the elephants include, inter-alia, the following:

(1) A detailed investigation of the cause of gastro intestinal diseases, commonly seen in summer, is being done bv the Veterinary Unit of Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.

(2) Steps have been taken up for the habitat improvement in the area including the maintenance of water pools.

(3) Eco-development activities have been taken up to reduce the human-wildlife conflicts.

(4) Anti-poaching activities have been taken up in this area by providing required vehicles, weapons and wireless to the staff.

उर्वरकों पर राज-सहायता

1941. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने उर्वरकों पर दी जाने वाली राज-सहायता की राशि में और वृद्धि करने की हाल ही में घोषणा की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान उर्वरकों पर दी जाने वाली राज-सहायता की कुल राशि कितनी हो जाने का अनुमान है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि राज-सहायता की राशि में वृद्धि किये जाने के फलस्वरूप किसानों को विभिन्न प्रकार के उर्वरक वर्तमान मूल्यों की तुलना में सस्ते मूल्यों पर प्राप्त होंगे;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उर्वरकों का उर्वरक किस्म-वार संभावित मूल्य क्या-क्या हो जाने का अनुमान है; और

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के मूल्यों में हाल ही में की गई वृद्धि से भी उर्वरकों के मूल्यों पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा; यदि हां, तो देश में प्रत्येक किस्म के उर्वरक के मूल्य में किस सीमा तक वृद्धि होगी और उन उर्वरकों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं?